

UNCLASSIFIED

11/10/77

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 08488 102055Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-00 L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 INRE-00 SS0-00 /028 W
-----054282 102059Z /63

O 102005Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3158
INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 8488

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SPON, SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: AP LOCAL EMPLOYEE DISAPPEARS

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full DECLASSIFIED

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

1. OSCAR SERRAT, SENIOR LOCAL STAFF REPORTED FOR AP IN ARGENTINA DISAPPEARED THE EARLY MORNING OF NOVEMBER 10 AFTER LEAVING HIS HOME FOR WORK. AP IS CHECKING ALL ITS SOURCES TO DETERMINE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISAPPEARANCE. ACCIDENT, SUDDEN ILLNESS, LEGAL ARREST OR OTHER NATURAL EXPLANATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN RULED OUT YET. NICHOLSON OF AP REPORTS THAT SERRAT WAS NOT A POLITICAL ACTIVIST AND NONE OF HIS RECENT STORIES TO NICHOLSON'S KNOWLEDGE COULD HAVE MOTIVATED POSSIBLE EXTRAL LEGAL ACTION BY GOA SECURITY OFFICIALS.

2. IN VIEW OF THE POTENTIAL SERIOUSNESS OF THE CASE, THE LOCAL AP OFFICE WANTS TO CHECK THOROUGHLY BEFORE MAKING ANY APPROACH TO GOA AUTHORITIES MEANWHILE WE BELIEVE THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE ALERTED IN CASE AP NEW YORK CONTACTS THE DEPARTMENT.

3. NICHOLSON WILL KEEP IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE EMBASSY ON DEVELOPMENTS.
CASTRO

PAGE 02 BUENOS 08488 102055Z

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 1

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